

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the formulation comprises the ganglioside GD3.

Claim 3 (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the formulation comprises the ganglioside GM3.

Claim 4 (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the percentage of GD3 as a function of total gangliosides is at least 50% by weight.

Claim 5 (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the percentage of GM3 in the formulation, expressed as a function of total gangliosides is at least 50% by weight.

Claim 6 (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the formulation comprises 70-90% GD3 and 0-15% GM3 by weight based on total gangliosides.

Claim 7 (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the formulation comprises about 80% GD3 and about 5% GM3 by weight based on total gangliosides.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the formulation is in the form of a supplemented liquid or food.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended) A method for mediating inflammation in a subjeet an adult subject in need thereof comprising the step of providing a formulation comprising one or more gangliosides selected from the group consisting of GD3, GM2, GM3, and GD1b, to said subject for oral consumption at a dosage of from 100 mg to 1 g per day; wherein mediating inflammation comprises changing lipid components in microdomains for treating inflammatory bowel disorders, disorders arising from allergic responses, diseases involving epithelial surface responses, or inflammation of the intestine, retina, or neuronal tissue; and wherein changing lipid components comprises a reduction in platelet activating factor (PAF), a reduction in the ratio of cholesterol:sphingolipid, or a reduction in total diglyceride in the microdomains.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the formulation comprises the ganglioside GD3 or GM3.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the percentage of GD3 in the formulation, expressed as a function of total gangliosides is at least 50% by weight.

Claim 20 (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the percentage of GM3 in the formulation, expressed as a function of total gangliosides is at least 50% by weight.

Claim 21 (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the formulation comprises 70-90% GD3 and 0-15% GM3 by weight based on total gangliosides.

Claim 22 (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the formulation comprises about 80% GD3 and about 5% GM3 by weight based on total gangliosides.

Claim 23 (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the formulation is in the form of a supplemented liquid or food.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (currently amended) A method for reducing plasma cholesterol level in a subject in need thereof comprising the step of providing a formulation comprising one or more gangliosides selected from the group consisting of GD3, GM2, GM3, and GD1b, to said subject for oral consumption.

wherein plasma cholesterol is reduced by changing lipid components in microdomains by a reduction in platelet activating factor (PAF), a reduction in the ratio of cholesterol:sphingolipid, or a reduction in total diglyceride in the microdomains.

Claim 26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (new) A method for mediating inflammation in an infant subject in need thereof comprising the step of providing a formulation comprising one or more gangliosides selected from the group consisting of GD3, GM2, GM3, and GD1b, to said subject for oral consumption at a dosage of from 10 mg to 50 mg per day;

wherein mediating inflammation comprises changing lipid components in microdomains for treating inflammatory bowel disorders, disorders arising from allergic responses, diseases involving epithelial surface responses, or inflammation of the intestine, retina, or neuronal tissue; and

wherein changing lipid components comprises a reduction in platelet activating factor (PAF), a reduction in the ratio of cholesterol:sphingolipid, or a reduction in total diglyceride in the microdomains.

Claim 29 (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the percentage of GD3 as a function of total gangliosides is at least 50% by weight.

Claim 30 (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the formulation comprises 70-90% GD3 and 0-15% GM3 by weight based on total gangliosides.

Claim 31 (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the formulation is in the form of a supplemented liquid or food.

Claim 32 (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the supplemented liquid or food comprises infant formula or infant foods.